

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 626

By DuBois

A RESOLUTION to recognize Dr. Bill Thrasher on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of public service; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Bill Thrasher is one such estimable person who has served with distinction for more than thirty years as an educator; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Thrasher has been President of Columbia Academy since September 1996, and will be taking a much-deserved retirement this year; and

WHEREAS, a native of Decatur, Alabama, Dr. Thrasher is a graduate of and holds degrees from Florida College, Harding University, George Peabody College of Vanderbilt University, and Arkansas State University; he received his doctorate from the University of Arkansas and is noted as the first football captain at Harding University; and

WHEREAS, during his illustrious career, Dr. Thrasher has served as teacher, coach, and athletic director in schools ranging from grade school to junior college; he has also served in administrative roles, including Assistant Principal, Principal, Superintendent, and President, in both public and private education; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to accolades, Bill Thrasher was honored as Arkansas's Outstanding Educator in 1969 by the State Jaycees, is included in *Who's Who Among American Educators* and the Phi Delta Kappa National Honor Society, and was recently honored as the 2006 National Christian School Association (NCSA) National Administrator of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Thrasher is an active and important part of his community and his profession, having participated in numerous worthy organizations, including the Arkansas Advisory Council on Secondary Education, the Arkansas Council on Economic Education, and the Tulsa Private School Advisory Council, and currently serving as a member of the Harding

University Board of Advisors, the first Farmers and Merchants Bank Board of Advisors, the Maury Vision 20/20 Board, the Maury County Technical School Board, and the NCSA Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, Bill Thrasher has also contributed his time and numerous talents to service as a charter member of the Board of Directors for the Maury County Alliance, a Rotary Club Paul Harris Fellow, a 1999 graduate of Leadership Maury, and the 2003 Maury County Heart Walk Chairman; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Thrasher is most grateful for the love and support he receives from his wife, Barbara; his children, Tim and Christy; and his grandchildren, Natalie and Nicole; Mrs. Thrasher spent thirty-nine years in education herself and was selected as Spring Hill Elementary Teacher of the Year in 2006; and

WHEREAS, Dr. and Mrs. Thrasher are devoted members of the West 7th Street Church of Christ; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Thrasher exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Bill Thrasher has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues and students alike; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we extend to Dr. Bill Thrasher our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement from his exemplary career in education and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.